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1AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 MAY 2006
PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hideki KOTAKI et al. Art Unit:
Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:
Title: AQUEOUS SOLUTION OF CHROMIUM SALT AND METHOD FOR
PRODUCING SAME
International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/017353
International Filing Date : November 22, 2004
Priority Date : December 10, 2003
U.S. Filing Date : May 8, 2006

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicants request that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Enclosed also please find a copy of the International Search Report citing six of these references. The relevance of these six references can be seen from the International Search Report. The English abstracts of Japanese references are also enclosed.

Please also note that eleven references were cited and discussed in the Notice of Reasons for Rejections mailed on November 8, 2005 and December 20, 2005 from the Japan Patent Office in the priority applications.

Please also note that two of the publications listed in the International Search Report are discussed on pages 3-4 of the specification.

Please also note that enclosed are copies of U.S. Patent No. 4,528,175 and European Patent Application Publication No. 1 484 432, which are the English language counterparts for Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 59-102821 and 2003-268562, respectively.

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Information Disclosure Statement

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Please also note that the English language translations of three of the Japanese Patent Publications are enclosed. Please also note that these English translations are machine translations provided by the Japan Patent Office and the Japan Patent Office states that the translations may not precisely reflect the original Japanese texts.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 8, 2006

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